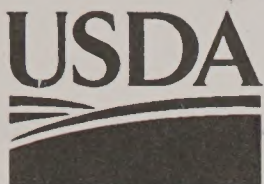


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United States
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Marketing and
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Programs

Agricultural
Marketing
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Livestock and Seed
Division

Items of Interest in Seed Control

Winter 1997

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Seed Regulatory and Testing Branch
Room 209, Building 306, BARC-East
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2325
301-504-9430

PHILENA HECKERT

Members of the Seed Regulatory and Testing Branch (SRTB) are saddened by the passing of Botanist Philena Heckert who died November 23, 1996. Philena worked for many years as a seed analyst in private industry before coming to the SRTB in 1988. Beyond her regular laboratory duties, she served as an instructor for seed analyst schools, was active in the Northeast Seed Analyst Workshop (NESAW) organization, served on committees of the International Seed Testing Association and Association of Official Seed Analysts, and was active on a committee that reviews and edits this publication.

NORTHEAST SEED ANALYST WORKSHOP HELD

SRTB Botanists David Bitzel and Philena Heckert attended the annual NESAW meeting, October 30-31, 1996. The New York State Seed Laboratory and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture co-hosted the meeting in Harrisburg, PA. Twenty-four attendees included seed analysts from two private companies, the SRTB, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and State seed laboratories in Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The group devoted most of the meeting to hands-on training. David Bitzel discussed how to identify species of *Setaria* and *Agropyron* and SRTB progress in developing a procedure to test herbicide resistant soybean varieties. Philena Heckert led a discussion in understanding purity testing principles. Other topics included germination testing problems, oat fluorescence, and seed regulatory problems.

SOYBEAN HERBICIDE RESISTANCE TESTING WORKSHOP HELD

SRTB Assistant Chief Richard Payne conducted a one-day workshop on laboratory testing procedures developed by the SRTB to identify herbicide resistant soybean varieties. The workshop was requested by the Illinois State Seed Trade Association and held in Champaign, IL. More than 50 people attended. They came from State departments of agriculture, crop improvement associations, seed companies, and commercial seed laboratories.

SUMMARY OF 1996 TRUENESS-TO-VARIETY PLANTINGS

The table below shows the 1996 results of the trueness-to-variety (TTV) testing program. This summary includes results of all plantings completed during the year and red fescue tests that were planted in the fall of 1995.

The University of Florida trials of lettuce and onion, conducted by Dr. Cantliffe and his staff, were evaluated in May. Some apparent mislabelings were found based on off-types within lots. Several samples labeled 'White Lisbon White Bunching' were found to produce bulbs, which should not occur in a bunching-type onion. At least two genotypes were found among the lettuce labeled to be the Iceberg variety. Some samples labeled to be the Great Lakes lettuce variety (or some variation of Great Lakes) were found to be mislabeled as well.

Variety Specialist Al Burgoon visited Dr. Bandele and his staff at Southern University in June 1996. Three inches of rain arrived the day before, making evaluations more difficult than usual.

Several Zucchini types were apparently mixed or off. Special care should be taken in the use of the term "Zucchini." It is possible that there may be an heirloom situation where the Zucchini variety is being maintained. Due to the large number of Zucchini-type squash, the term Zucchini has become a type designation as opposed to a variety name. However, in commercial growing operations, Zucchini probably no longer exists as a variety.

Two different genotypes were identified among the samples labeled as 'Bennings Green Tint' squash. This was also true for squash samples labeled 'Vegetable Marrow.'

The Maryland red fescue trials were interesting. Almost all samples labeled 'Pennlawn' red fescue were found to be different from the check samples. Most Pennlawn test plants were lighter green, taller, and coarser than the check plants of this old variety, which were dark green and short with refined, narrow leaves.

The summer tomato trials were transplanted rather late, but were fruitful nonetheless. Many distinct genotypes were found among the samples labeled as 'Beefsteak' (and variations thereof). Three distinct genotypes each were found in the samples labeled as 'Homestead' and 'Flora Dade.' Some "type" labeling (*i.e.*, showing type rather than variety name) was identified. For example, the samples labeled as 'Cherry' and 'Red Cherry' were not completely named because there are various varieties of these type designations. Numerous variety substitutions were found.

As luck would have it, heavy rains also preceded our September evaluation visit to Stillwater, OK. The rain made evaluations of the sorghum-sudangrass plots a real challenge. Based on past sorghum-sudangrass TTV results, the Oklahoma trials were surprising in that we found fewer off-types than expected. Only a relatively few sorghum-sudangrass samples were reported as mislabeled. However, many hybrid pearl millet samples were found extremely variable for height, heading, and

other plant characteristics. Poor emergence prevented an adequate evaluation of several foxtail millet, Japanese millet, and proso millet plots. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture staffers Roger Osburn and Larry Rudebush, and Gary Strickland of Oklahoma State University joined Al Burgoon and Harold Laswell of the SRTB in braving the mud to evaluate the plots.

Soybeans were tested in Minnesota, Virginia, and Texas. The Minnesota trials included soybean maturity groups 00 through 2 and were some of the best variety trials we have witnessed. Weed control and emergence were excellent. Mike Muggli, Debra Andazola, and Harold Rufflett joined Dr. Jim Orf and Al Burgoon in evaluating the soybeans planted at Rosemont, MN. The evaluations were made at the stage of leaf drop for most varieties, which is the best stage to judge relative maturity and pubescence.

The Virginia soybean trials included maturity groups 3 through 5 and were conducted by Berkeley Glenn and Steve Cobb of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This year, the Virginia trials were moved to a new location at Dorney Park. Poor emergence from the first planting necessitated partial replanting and made evaluation more difficult. Recently retired Virginia seed control official Dennis Brown helped with some of the evaluations.

The Texas grow-outs featured the late maturing soybeans, vine squash, and a few melons and watermelons. As always, Floyd Kostelka and Edward Berens did a fine job with the trials. Two genotypes were found among the samples labeled as 'Laredo' soybeans. One genotype was a bush type, which appears not to be as described in the literature.

It takes much effort by many people to make the TTV program successful. In addition to our TTV cooperators who plant, maintain, and evaluate the grow-outs, we thank the people in the State programs who collect the samples and send them to us for testing, also the many seed companies, certification agencies, and foundation seed organizations that provide check samples for our TTV trials. If you need any information, please contact Al Burgoon, Testing Section, SRTB, LS, AMS, USDA, Room 213, Building 306, BARC-East, Beltsville, MD 20705-2325, 301-504-8138 (voice), 301-504-8098 (FAX), or send a message via Internet to Alan C Burgoon@USDA.GOV.

RESULTS OF THE TTV PROGRAM FOR 1996

| SITE | CROP | TEST ^{1/} SAMPLES | TOTAL ^{2/} SAMPLES | APPARENTLY MISLABELED | PERCENT ^{3/} MISLABELED |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Florida | lettuce | 168 | 188 | 11 | 6.5% |
| | onion | 69 | 83 | 5 | 7.2% |
| Louisiana | summer squash | 118 | 158 | 13 | 11.0% |
| Maryland | red fescue | 75 | 90 | 31 | 41.3% |
| | tomato | 154 | 201 | 18 | 11.7% |
| | garden bean | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Oklahoma | sorghum-sudangrass | 254 | 254 | 7 | 2.8% |
| | millet | 41 | 41 | 5 | 12.2% |
| Minnesota | soybean | 129 | 193 | 4 | 3.1% |
| Texas | soybean | 270 | 357 | 21 | 7.8% |
| | vine squash | 46 | 62 | 1 | 2.2% |
| | melon | 3 | 4 | 2 | 66.7% |
| | watermelon | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Virginia | soybean | 288 | 369 | 13 | 4.5% |

^{1/} Number of actual test samples, excluding checks.

^{2/} Total number of samples, including checks.

^{3/} Number of apparent mislabelings divided by the number of actual test samples x 100.

TRUENESS-TO-VARIETY PLANS FOR 1997

The test sites and crops we are planning to grow in our TTV program for 1997 are listed in the table below. Please submit samples for these tests as early as possible prior to the cut-off dates for each crop. Please note that some of the tests are scheduled for fall planting. If you need additional information, contact Variety Specialist Al Burgoon.

| LOCATION | CROP | MINIMUM SAMPLE SIZE | CUT-OFF DATE |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| South Dakota | spring wheat, barley, and oat | 25 g | April 15, 1997 |
| Texas | pumpkin | 25 g | May 15, 1997 |
| | muskmelon | 4 g | May 15, 1997 |
| Virginia | cowpea | 30 g | June 1, 1997 |
| Louisiana | cabbage and brussels sprouts | 1 g | August 15, 1997 |
| Maryland | Kentucky bluegrass | 0.25 g | August 15, 1997 |
| Georgia | winter small grains | 50 g | October 1, 1997 |
| Kansas | winter small grains | 30 g | October 1, 1997 |

CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS

In order to provide the American people with the highest quality customer service possible, President Clinton directed each Federal agency that provides service directly to the public to establish and implement customer service standards.

Several branches in the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), including the SRTB, are involved in the area of fair trade and orderly markets. Those branches developed the customer service standards that are shown below. Most of you received a copy of the standards along with a customer survey last April. We are currently reviewing the standards. We would appreciate any suggestions you have on how we can improve our customer service standards. Please contact James Triplitt, SRTB, LS, AMS, USDA, Room 209, Building 306, BARC-East, Beltsville, MD 20705-2325, 301-504-9430 (voice), 301-504-5454 (FAX) or send a message via Internet to James P Triplitt@USDA.GOV

Our Mission

USDA AMS offers a variety of services to meet the marketing needs of our customers by promoting fair trade and orderly marketing.

Fair Trade Programs

Seed Regulatory and Testing Branch Programs:

- Provides the global seed community and seed buyers with a service that promotes the truthful marketing of seed.

Our Pledge to You

- We have a well-trained and professional staff committed to being helpful, courteous, and responsive to our customers' needs.
- We will ensure that our services are performed in an unbiased manner and meet program objectives required by law.
- We will provide high-quality, accurate service, in a cost-effective manner, within established time frames.
- We will continually strive to establish effective communications with our customers. We will consider all comments and suggestions and use them to improve the quality of our services.
- All complaints will be taken seriously and we will work to resolve them promptly and efficiently.

RYEGRASS FLUORESCENCE LIST

This is the ryegrass fluorescence list from the National Grass Variety Review Board. We have not received any updates since our Fall edition of the Items of Interest in Seed Control.

| Perennial Ryegrass <u>Variety Name</u> | Percent Varietal <u>Fluorescence</u> | Perennial Ryegrass <u>Variety Name</u> | Percent Varietal <u>Fluorescence</u> | Perennial Ryegrass <u>Variety Name</u> | Percent Varietal <u>Fluorescence</u> |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2CB | 1.97% | Envy | 0.22% | Repell II | 1.56% |
| 89-90 | 2.15% | Equal | 1.98% | Reveille | 2.00% |
| 90-14 ¹ | 7.12% | Evening Shade | 1.17% | Riviera | 0.58% |
| 246 | 0.27% | Excel | 1.53% | Riviera II | 1.08% |
| 856 | 0.87% | Express | 1.00% | Rodeo II | 2.47% |
| Accent | 0.56% | Fiesta II | 1.14% | SR 4100 | 0.37% |
| Accolade | 4.83% | Gator | 0.88% | SR 4200 | 0.34% |
| Accord | 4.08% | Gettysburg | 2.74% | Seville | 0.33% |
| Achiever | 0.93% | Greenland | 1.20% | Sherwood | 1.08% |
| Advent | 0.14% | Grimalda | 2.00% | Shining Star | 0.10% |
| Affinity | 0.77% | Imagine | 1.31% | Stallion Select | 2.37% |
| Agresso | 2.00% | Koos 90-2 ¹ | 3.85% | Stardance ¹ | 1.90% |
| All Star | 0.47% | Laredo ¹ | 0.53% | Statesman | 1.27% |
| Allaire II | 1.15% | Legacy | 0.37% | Statesman II | 3.10% |
| APM | 0.59% | Lindsay | 1.72% | Target | 3.28% |
| Aquarius | 0.97% | Linn | 5.00% | Tonga | 11.53% |
| Assure | 0.72% | Lowgrow | 1.31% | Top Hat | 0.77% |
| Bedford | 1.40% | Magic | 1.21% | Topeka | 2.34% |
| Blackhawk ¹ | 1.17% | Manhattan II | 0.65% | Vantage | 2.19% |
| Blazer III | 1.18% | Manhattan 3 | 0.88% | Wind Star | 0.47% |
| Boardwalk | 2.72% | Morningstar | 0.87% | Wizard | 2.57% |
| Breeze | 1.57% | Mulligan | 1.86% | Yorktown III | 1.42% |
| Brightstar | 1.79% | Navajo | 0.37% | | |
| Buccaneer | 2.01% | Newlinn ¹ | 5.85% | Annual | Percent |
| C-21 ¹ | 6.28% | NightHawk | 1.39% | Ryegrass | Varietal |
| Caliente | 0.74% | Nobility | 3.26% | <u>Variety Name</u> | <u>Fluorescence</u> |
| Calypso | 1.29% | Nomad | 1.03% | Florida 80 | 98.89% |
| Calypso II | 0.47% | Nova | 1.00% | Grazer | 99.78% |
| Catalina ¹ | 3.18% | Omega 3 ¹ | 0.73% | Gulf | 99.02% |
| Cathedral | 0.85% | Omni | 0.51% | Jackson | 98.80% |
| Charisma | 2.39% | Pageant | 2.22% | Marshall | 96.00% |
| Chattam ¹ | 2.11% | Palmer | 1.04% | Rio ¹ | 98.97% |
| Citation III ¹ | 0.96% | Palmer II | 1.51% | Surrey | 98.91% |
| Commander | 1.02% | Passport | 1.06% | TAM 90 | 98.45% |
| Cutter | 1.65% | Patriot II | 0.42% | | |
| Dancer | 0.78% | Pegasus ¹ | 2.41% | | |
| Dandy | 2.00% | Pennant | 0.50% | | |
| Delaware Dwarf | 0.61% | Pleasure | 1.42% | | |
| Derby Supreme | 2.85% | PR8820 | 0.79% | | |
| Dillon | 4.14% | Prelude | 1.72% | | |
| Divine | 3.09% | Prelude II | 2.25% | | |
| Edge | 1.73% | Prizm | 0.71% | | |
| Elegance | 1.51% | Quickstart | 0.18% | | |
| Elf | 0.75% | Regency | 0.99% | | |
| Elite | 4.84% | Repell | 0.33% | | |

¹ Experimental Designation
and/or Variety

FEDERAL SEED ACT CASES SETTLED

Listed below are cases settled under the Federal Seed Act from October 1 through December 31, 1996. All cases were settled administratively. Under the administrative settlement procedure, the SRTB and the firms agreed to settle the cases for the amount specified with the firms neither admitting nor denying the charges:

- Iantha Seed Company, Lamar, MO, has paid \$1,500 for a case involving 5 shipments of seed. The alleged violations, while not the same for all shipments, were false labeling of pure seed, noxious-weed seeds, and test date; failure to show required information for a seed component in a mixture, to show the shipper's code or name and address, and to keep required records; and shipping seed containing noxious-weed seeds in excess of a State's limits. Seed regulatory officials in Alabama and West Virginia cooperated in the initial sampling and inspection.
- Pennington Seed, Inc., Madison, GA, has paid \$8,600 for a case involving 16 shipments of seed. Three of Pennington's divisions in Oregon, Missouri, and Georgia made the shipments. The alleged violations, while not the same for all shipments, were false advertising of germination percentage and test date; false and incomplete labeling of noxious-weed seeds; false labeling of purity, germination, and test date; failure to show required information for a seed component; failure to test all components in a seed mixture for germination within the prescribed period prior to interstate shipment; and failure to keep required records including records establishing the variety name labeled. Seed regulatory officials in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia cooperated in the initial sampling and inspection.

Additions and Deletions of Plant Variety Protection Certificates

PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATES
(**Issued** October 16, 1996 through January 13, 1997)

| KIND | VARIETY | APPLICANT | TITLE 5 (NO. OF 1994 GEN.) PVPA |
|---------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| BENTGRASS, CREEPING | | | |
| | 18th Green | University of Manitoba | Y (2) |
| CORN, FIELD | | | |
| | PHBG4 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHBR2 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHBV8 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHDP0 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHGF5 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHKV1 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHKW3 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHNB7 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHNJ2 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHPM0 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| | PHPP8 | Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. | Y |
| COTTON | | | |
| | Terra 366 | Terra International, Inc. | Y |
| | FESCUE, TALL | | |
| | Crossfire | Pickseed West Inc. | |
| MARIGOLD | | | |
| | Aurora Orange | Waller Flowerseed Company | Y |
| TEFF | | | |
| | Dessie | The Teff Company | Y (2) |
| WHEAT, COMMON | | | |
| | Chelsea | Michigan State University | Y (2) |
| | Glupro | NDSU Research Foundation | Y (3) |

(*) No limit to the number of generations of certified seed beyond breeders seed.

PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATES
(Expired October 16, 1996 through January 13, 1997)

| KIND VARIETY | APPLICANT | TITLE 5 (NO. OF 1994 GEN.) PVPA |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| CAULIFLOWER | | |
| Snowball 123 | Clause S.A. | |
| ONION | | |
| Colossal | Sunseeds Company | |
| New Mexico White | Sunseeds Company | |
| Grano PRR | | |
| PUMPKIN | | |
| Big Moon | Petoseed Company, Inc. | |
| SOYBEAN | | |
| Coker 156 | Northrup King Company | Y (3) |
| Hobson | Soybean Research Foundation, Inc. | Y (3) |
| SRF 250 | Soybean Research Foundation, Inc. | Y (3) |
| Wells II | Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station | Y (3) |
| SQUASH | | |
| Black Magic | Musser Seed Company, Inc. | |
| WHEAT, COMMON | | |
| 4578 | Seed Research Inc. | Y (3) |
| Westbred Aim | Western Plant Breeders, Inc. | Y (3) |
| WHEAT, DURUM | | |
| Westbred 1000D | Western Plant Breeders, Inc. | Y (3) |

(*) No limit to the number of generations of certified seed beyond breeders seed.

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